



Snapshots from the Journey

Portfolio Guide for the
Service Coordinator

Module 10



Intentionally blank for printing purposes



Description of Module 10

Wisdom from the Journey Family Matters in Early Intervention

The purpose of this module is to provide information from, for, and about families of infants and toddlers with special needs, so that service coordinators will more fully empathize with the demands that developmental disabilities place on a family. Understanding family dynamics and benefiting from the experience and wisdom that families have to offer, helps service coordinators in their efforts to partner with families.

Service coordination requires knowledge of numerous topics related to the early intervention process, but understanding the impact of disability on family relationships is imperative to effectively supporting families. Without this understanding, service coordination will fail to promote relationships that foster family competence and confidence in meeting the needs of young children with disabilities.

Service coordinators aspire to support and empathize with families on their journey; this module seeks to provide recognition for the importance of their efforts. Information highlighting fathers, grandparents, and siblings of young children with special needs is provided in this module in order to acknowledge the common and unique needs of these family members. *Wisdom from the Journey* attempts to help build a service coordinator's understanding of the day-to-day realities faced by families on their journey of hope.



Module 10

Wisdom from the Journey Family Matters in Early Intervention

Competencies

- Has knowledge and understanding of the importance of encouraging participation from all family members in the child's program, therapy, etc.
- Has knowledge of family systems, parental reactions to handicapping conditions, and parental coping strategies.
- Has knowledge and understanding of the day-to-day realities of parenting a young child with disabilities.
- Has appreciation for the potential importance the role service coordination can play in supporting positive family relationships.
- Has knowledge and understanding of the impact on the family at the time their child receives a diagnosis of disability.
- Has knowledge and understanding of how grandparents can support families of infants and toddlers with disabilities.
- Has knowledge and understanding of the importance of the involvement of fathers in the care of the child with special needs.
- Has knowledge and understanding of the needs of siblings of infants and toddlers with disabilities.



Module 10

Wisdom from the Journey Family Matters in Early Intervention

Contents

- 10.1 You Are the One...
- 10.2 ABC's of Special Needs
- 10.3 Life Stories from the Journey
- 10.4 Grandparenting
- 10.5 Father's Involvement
- 10.6 Siblings
- 10.7 Top Things...You wish your service coordinator knew,
understood, would do, or would stop doing!
- 10.8 Souvenirs from the Journey
- 10.9 On Having to Give Bad News



Module 10

Wisdom from the Journey Family Matters in Early Intervention

Assignments/Activity	Measure of Achievement
<p>10.1 You are the One</p> <p>Listen to the poem from Power Point <i>Wisdom from the Journey – Family Matters in Early Intervention</i> (slides 1-6).</p>	Completion.
<p>10.2 ABC's of Special Needs</p> <p>The purpose of this activity is to help the participant refresh their awareness of the many demands that families of children with special needs experience.</p> <p>Twenty-six brief family scenarios are presented in handout 10.2a <i>ABC's of Special Needs</i>. Silently read all scenarios. Select three scenarios, and assuming the role of the family member, write a response to each of those three examples using worksheet 10.2b. Be prepared to share your written responses with the trainer/group. Place the worksheet in the portfolio upon completion.</p>	Active participation and completion of activity as instructed. Worksheet placed in portfolio.
<p>10.3 Life Stories from the Journey</p> <p>There are two ways to complete this portion of the training. Your trainer will select one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. View the video <i>Project DOCC (Delivery of Chronic Care)</i>. From the parents in the video, you will learn how Project DOCC works to educate physicians about families of children with chronic health care needs, while refreshing awareness of the impact of diagnosis, and day to day caring for a child with chronic special needs. Following the video, complete 10.3a <i>Life</i> 	Completion as directed and approval by the trainer/supervisor of worksheet 10.3a. Worksheet placed in portfolio.

Assignments/Activity	Measure of Achievement
<p><i>Stories from the Journey Worksheet</i>, show it to your trainer/supervisor for their approval, and place it in your portfolio.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p>2. The trainer will invite two local family members to meet with the participant to share their responses to 10.3b <i>Family Interview Questions</i>. Following the interview, complete 10.3a <i>Life Stories from the Journey Worksheet</i>, show it to your trainer/supervisor for their approval, and place it in your portfolio.</p>	
<p>10.4 Grandparenting</p> <p>View PowerPoint <i>Wisdom from the Journey – Family Matters in Early Intervention</i> (slides 8-21), engaging in discussion as directed.</p>	Active participation as directed.
<p>10.5 Father's Involvement</p> <p>1. Using a copy of 10.5a <i>Father's Involvement is Important</i> be willing to read one of the fathers' stories aloud. (If there are fewer than three participants, the learners will silently read the article.) Return to PowerPoint.</p> <p>2. View PowerPoint <i>Wisdom from the Journey- Family Matters in Early Intervention</i> (slides 23-30), engaging in discussion as directed.</p>	Completion and active participation as directed.
<p>10.6 Siblings</p> <p>Read handout 10.6 <i>What Siblings Would Like Parents and Service Providers to Know</i> outside of training. Complete 10.6a <i>Sibling Worksheet</i> by selecting three of the twenty themes in the handout to respond to by writing why each theme is significant. List three ways that service coordinators can involve siblings in the early intervention process. Show the completed worksheet to the trainer/supervisor for their approval. Place the completed worksheet in your portfolio.</p>	Satisfactory completion of activity as determined by the trainer/supervisor and worksheet placed in the portfolio.
<p>10.7 Top Things...You wish your service coordinator knew, understood, would do, or would stop doing!</p> <p>View PowerPoint <i>Wisdom from the Journey – Family Matters in Early Intervention</i> (slides 32-45), engaging in discussion as directed.</p>	Completion and participation as directed.
10.8 Souvenirs from the Journey	Completion of reading

Assignments/Activity	Measure of Achievement
<p>Complete the following reading assignments outside of training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10.8a <i>Children with Special Needs Internet Guide for Parents and Professionals</i> • 10.8b <i>Where Are the Parents?</i> • 10.8c <i>Essay: Look Through the Windows of My World</i> • 10.8d <i>To You, My Sisters</i> • 10.8e <i>Happy Mother's Day</i> <p>Make special note of the specific disability sites in 10.8a. These sites will be useful when information on disability topics is needed. Upon completion of reading assignment, notify the trainer/supervisor that you have completed this portion of the training. Offices might like to make a hardcopy of the guide.</p>	<p>assignments and notification to the trainer/supervisor.</p>
<p>10.9 On Having to Give Bad News</p> <p>View PowerPoint <i>On Having to Give Bad News</i>.</p>	<p>Completion.</p>